Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /031 R

DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:JABAKER/XVUNOVIC APPROVED BY IO:WBBUFFUM EUR:WSTABLER (SUBS) NEA:SSOBER (SUBS) S/S-O: L. MATTESON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

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EXDIS, TOSEC 33, ZFF CAIRO ONLY, FOR SISCO FROM BUFFUM

EO. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR, UN, XF SUBJECT: INVITATION TO PLO TO PARTICIPATE IN UNGA PLENARY DEBATE ON PALESTINIAN ITEM

1. ON OCTOBER 8, SIXTY-NINE COSPONSORS INTRODUCED FOLLOWING RESOLUTION ON SUBJECT INVITATION:

THE GA,

CONSIDERING THAT THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE IS THE PRINCIPAL PARTY TO THE QUESTION OF PALESTINE, CONFIDENTIAL

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INVITES THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION, THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE, TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DELIBERATIONS OF THE GA ON THE QUESTION OF PALESTINE IN PLENARY MEETINGS.

- 2. DURING DAY, USUN EXCHANGED VIEWS WITH OTHER DELEGATIONS INCLUDING EC-9 DELEGATIONS IN PARTICULAR, WHO SOUGHT US VIEWS ON RESOLUTION, WHICH PRESENTLY SCHEDULED FOR VOTE ON OCTOBER 14.
- 3. ISRAELIS WERE ACTIVE AND MAINTAINED THEIR PRESSURE ON USDEL AS USUN IS REPORTING SEPARATELY. THEY PARTICULARLY STRESSED FOLLOW-UP IN EC-9 CAPITALS.
- 4. FOR PARIS: IN VIEW OF FACT THAT EC-9 MIDDLE EAST EXPERTS WILL MEET IN PARIS OCTOBER 10 AND DISCUSS, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THEIR POSITION WITH RESPECT TO ABOVE RESOLUTION, POINTS IN PARAGRAPH 5 SHOULD BE USED IF EMBASSY HAS OPPORTUNITY OR IS ASKED TO PROVIDE US VIEWS.
- 5. US VIEWS:
- A. WE HAVE ALWAYS SAID THAT THE LEGITIMATE INTERESTS OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE MUST BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS OF A MIDDLE EASTERN SETTLEMENT. THIS CONTINUES TO BE OUR VIEW.
- B. HOWEVER, US IS VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THE POTENTIAL DISRUPTIVE IMPACT WHICH THE PALESTINIAN DEBATE, AND PARTICULARLY THE INVITATION OF THE PLO AS "THE" REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE IN THAT DEBATE, COULD HAVE ON THE MIDDLE EASTERN NEGOTIATIONS.
- C. SECRETARY KISSINGER IS EXPLORING THESE IMPLICATIONS DURING HIS CURRENT TRIP TO THE MIDDLE EAST, AND THEREFORE WE ARE ANXIOUS TO AVOID ANY JUDGMENTS WHICH BY THEMSELVES MIGHT HAVE NEGATIVE IMPACT ON THOSE NEGOTIATIONS.
- D. WE OPPOSE IN PARTICULAR (1) THE REFERENCE IN THE CONFIDENTIAL

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RESOLUTION TO THE PLO AS "THE" REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE, CHARACTERIZATION WHICH COULD CAUSE DIFFICULTIES IN LATER NEGOTIATIONS FOR SOME OF THE PARTIES, PARTICULARLY JORDAN AND ISRAEL AND (2) THE INVITATION TO THE PLO TO PARTICIPATE IN PLENARY DEBATES, WHICH WOULD ESTABLISH, FOR THE FIRST TIME, THE UNDESIRABLE PRECEDENT OF ALLOWING REPRESENTATIVES OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS TO SPEAK IN UNGA'S HIGHEST FORUM.

- E. WHILE WE CANNOT OVEREMPHASIZE THE POTENTIAL DAMAGE THE ADOPTION OF ANY UNWISE RESOLUTION COULD HAVE ON THE NEGOTIATION PROSPECTS, WE HAVE NOT MADE A FINAL DECISION ON HOW WE WOULD VOTE ON A RESOLUTION INVITING THE PLO TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DEBATE. HOWEVER, IF THE VOTE ON THE INVITATION RESOLUTION WERE TO COME VERY SOON, WE WOULD PROBABLY HAVE TO VOTE AGAINST IT.
- F. WE WILL REMAIN IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH EC-9 MISSIONS IN NEW YORK ON FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING PALESTINIAN ITEM IN UNGA.
- 6. REMAINING ADDRESSEES SHOULD DRAW ON FOREGOING IN THEIR DISCUSSIONS WITH HOST GOVERNMENTS.
- 7. EUR ADDRESSEES SHOULD AWAIT CONFIRMATION OF THESE INSTRUCTIONS FROM SECRETARY'S PARTY BEFORE USING ANY OF FOREGOING.
- 8. FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY: IF FOREGOING INSTRUCTIONS FIT CURRENT DIALOGUE IN CAIRO, REQUEST YOU SEND IMPLEMENTING INSTRUCTIONS TO EUROPEAN ADDRESSEE POSTS INCLUDING INDICATION WHETHER YOU WISH EMBASSIES TO TAKE INITIATIVE IN RAISING THE SUBJECT. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: PALESTINIANS, UNGA RESOLUTIONS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 10 OCT 1974 Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE223388

Document Number: 1974STATE223388
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JABAKER/XVUNOVIC

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A

Film Number: D740287-0686

From: STATE

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741055/aaaabvjl.tel Line Count: 140 Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Office: ORIGIN SS Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 3

Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS Reference: n/a

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: golinofr

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 20 MAR 2002

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 MAR 2002 by martinml>; APPROVED <22 MAY 2002 by golinofr>

Review Markings:

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN

Status: NATIVE

Subject: INVITATION TO PLO TO PARTICIPATE IN UNGA PLENARY DEBATE ON PALESTINIAN ITEM TAGS: PFOR, XF, UN, PLO

To: LONDON MULTIPLE

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005